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HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL 39
46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003
INTRODUCED BY
Don Tripp

A JOINT MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE TO DESIGNATE THE EL CAMINO REAL INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE CENTER AS THE OFFICIAL CENTER FOR THE INTERPRETATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF EL CAMINO REAL DE TIERRA ADENTRO NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL.

WHEREAS, On October 13, 2000, the Unites States congress passed Public Law 106-307, which formally recognized and designated "El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro", the royal road to the interior, as a national historic trail in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the secretary of the interior has directed that the administrative responsibility for el camino real de tierra adentro national historic trail be assigned jointly to the bureau of land management and the national park service to

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1 ensure preservation and enhancement of this outstanding
2 national treasure; and

3 WHEREAS, the bureau of land management and the museum of
4 New Mexico have signed a joint powers agreement to construct
5 and operate the el camino real international heritage center to
6 be located south of Socorro, New Mexico; and

7 WHEREAS, in cooperation with Mexico, the center will
8 provide information to the general public on the role that the
9 camino real played in the Spanish exploration and colonization
10 of New Mexico; and

11 WHEREAS, the center is the only such entity interpreting
12 the four hundred year history of the camino real as a major
13 transportation corridor between Spain and Mexico and the United
14 States; and

15 WHEREAS, the construction of the center, which is to be
16 completed in March 2003, was funded by four million dollars
17 (\$4,000,000) in appropriations from the New Mexico legislature
18 and the United States congress; and

19 WHEREAS, the bureau of land management and the national
20 park service have published a draft comprehensive management
21 plan-environmental impact statement describing alternative
22 visions for managing the national historic trail and have
23 distributed it for comments from interested persons; and

24 WHEREAS, the draft management plan only describes the
25 center as a major focal point along the trail, along with

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1 other, lesser entities;

2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the legislature of the
3 state of New Mexico that the bureau of land management and the
4 national park service be requested to designate the el camino
5 real international heritage center as the official center for
6 the interpretation and enhancement of el camino real national
7 historic trail; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
9 transmitted to the New Mexico congressional delegation, the
10 secretary of the interior, the bureau of land management, the
11 national park service and the el camino real international
12 heritage center.